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-- REMARKS --

In the Final Office Action, Examiner Nguyen rejected pending claims 1-9 on various grounds. The Applicant responds to each rejection as subsequently recited herein, and respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination of the present application under 37 CFR § 1.116:

- A. Examiner Nguyen rejected pending claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,574,776 to *Chiang*

The Applicant has thoroughly considered Examiner Nguyen's remarks concerning the patentability of claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 over *Chiang*. The Applicant has also thoroughly read *Chiang*. To warrant this 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9, *Chiang* must show each and every limitation of independent claims 1, 5 and 9 in as complete detail as is contained in independent claims 1, 5 and 9. *See*, MPEP §2131. The Applicant respectfully traverses this §102(b) rejection of independent claims 1, 5 and 9, because *Chiang* fails to disclose and teaches away from the following limitations of independent claims 1, 5 and 9:

1. "a communication device [COM] communicating with an electronic module [MOD] intended to send a convention signal to said microprocessor", and "a hardware circuit [HARD] allowing inversion or no inversion of the order of bits of a word as a function of the value of said convention signal during transfer of said word between the electronic module [MOD] and the microprocessor [PRC]" as recited in independent claims 1 and 5; and

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2. "a communication device [COM] for communicating a contention signal and a word to said hardware circuit [HARD] from one of a microprocessor [PRC] and an electronic module [MOD]", and "wherein said hardware circuit includes means for implementing one of a direct convention and an indirect convention of an order of bits of the word as a function of a value of the convention signal" as recited in independent claim 9.

Specifically, Examiner Nguyen interprets *Chiang* as disclosing a microprocessor 13/15 as illustrated in FIG. 1 of *Chiang*, and a communication device communicating with an electronic module 11 as illustrated in FIG. 1 of *Chiang* for purposes of sending a conventional signal in the form of data to microprocessors 13/15. Examiner Nguyen further interprets *Chiang* as disclosing a hardware circuit as illustrated in FIG. 7 of *Chiang* for allowing an inversion of an order of bits of a word as a function of a value of the data during a transfer of the word between electronic module 11 and microprocessors 13/15.

The Applicant respectfully asserts that a careful review of *Chiang* reveals the fact that *Chiang* teaches a EDC Bit Order Inverter (FIG. 7) employed by EDC processor 13 (FIG. 1) for unconditionally inverting 32 bit values from a linear feedback shift register (FIG. 7) as part of an "encoding process" that is implemented by EDC processor 13 after receipt of the data from electronic module 11. See, *Chiang* at column 5, line 6 to column 6, line 63. Thus, *Chiang* fails to teach or suggest an inversion by the EDC Bit Order Inverter of the 32 bit values from the linear feedback shift register as a function of the value of the data. This is evidenced by the failure of *Chiang* to teach or suggest a conditional inversion of the 32 bit values by the ED Bit Order Inverter. Moreover, *Chiang* teaches away from a conversion of the order of the bits of the data during the transfer of the data from electronic module 11 to EDC processor 13 as required by independent claims 1, 5 and 9 by teaching an implementation of the encoding process by EDC processor after the data has been transferred from electronic module 11 to EDC processor 13.

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Withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1, 5 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Chiang* is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 3 depends from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claim 3 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 3 is allowable over *Chiang* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 1 being allowable over *Chiang*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 3 under U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Chiang* is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 7 depends from independent claim 5. Therefore, dependent claim 7 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 5. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 7 is allowable over *Chiang* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 5 being allowable over *Chiang*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 7 under U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Chiang* is therefore respectfully requested.

- B. Examiner Nguyen rejected pending claims 2 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,574,776 to *Chiang* in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0004891 to *Van Rensberg*

Claim 2 depends from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claim 2 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 2 is allowable over *Chiang* in view of *Van Rensberg* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 2 being allowable over *Chiang*. Furthermore, the Examiner did not show any suggestion or motivation to combine *Chiang* with *Van Rensberg* to arrive at the claimed invention. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 3 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chiang* in view of *Van Rensberg* is therefore respectfully requested.

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Claim 6 depends from independent claim 5. Therefore, dependent claim 6 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 5. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 6 is allowable over *Chiang* in view of *Van Rensberg* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 5 being allowable over *Chiang*. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 6 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chiang* in view of *Van Rensberg* is therefore respectfully requested.

- C. Examiner Nguyen rejected pending claims 4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,574,776 to *Chiang* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,822 to *Muwafi*

Claim 4 depends from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claim 4 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 4 is allowable over *Chiang* in view of *Muwafi* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 4 being allowable over *Chiang*. Furthermore, *Chiang* teaches away from an incorporation of a switch by failing to teach a conditional inversion of the 32 bit values by the ED Bit Order Inverter. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 3 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chiang* in view of *Muwafi* is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 8 depends from independent claim 5. Therefore, dependent claim 8 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 5. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 8 is allowable over *Chiang* in view of *Muwafi* for at least the same reason as set forth herein with respect to independent claim 5 being allowable over *Chiang*. Furthermore, *Chiang* teaches away from an incorporation of a switch by failing to teach a conditional inversion of the 32 bit values by the ED Bit Order Inverter. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 8 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chiang* in view of *Muwafi* is therefore respectfully requested.

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SUMMARY

Examiner Nguyen's anticipation and obviousness rejections of pending claims 1-9 have been obviated by the above remarks supporting an allowance of independent claims 1, 5 and 9 over *Chiang*. The Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-9 as listed herein fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103 and 112. In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, Examiner Nguyen is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

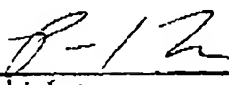
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Respectfully submitted,
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